

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A positive active material for a lithium secondary battery of which the surface is coated with a metal oxide, wherein the positive active material compound comprises  $\text{Li}_a\text{Ni}_{1-x-y}\text{Co}_x\text{M}_y\text{O}_2$  and M is a metal selected from the group consisting of Al, Mg, Sr, La, Ce, and V, and  $0 \leq x < 0.99$ ,  $0.01 \leq y \leq 0.1$ , and  $1.00 \leq a \leq 1.1$ , wherein the metal oxide coated on the surface of the compound excludes Li and is an oxide of a metal selected from the group consisting of Mg, Ti, Al, V, Co, K, Ca, Na, and B.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

3. (Original) A positive active material according to claim 1, wherein the thickness of a layer coated on the surface of the compound is 1 to 100nm.

Claims 4-8 (Canceled).

9. (Previously Presented) The positive active material of claim 1, the surface is coated with the metal oxide by a dip coating method.

10. (Currently Amended) A positive active material for a lithium secondary battery of which the surface is coated with a metal oxide, wherein the positive active material compound comprises  $\text{Li}_a\text{Ni}_{1-x-y}\text{Co}_x\text{M}_y\text{O}_{2-z}\text{F}_z$  and M is a metal selected from the group consisting of Al, Mg, Sr, La, Ce, and V, and  $0 \leq x < 0.99$ ,  $0.01 \leq y \leq 0.1$ ,  $0.01 \leq z \leq 0.1$ , and  $1.00 \leq a \leq 1.1$ , wherein the metal oxide coated on the surface of the compound is an oxide of a metal selected from the group consisting of Mg, Si, Al, K, Ca, Na, and B.

11. (Previously Presented) The positive active material of claim 10, wherein the thickness of a layer coated on the surface of the compound is 1 to 100 nm.

12. (Previously Presented) A positive active material for a lithium secondary battery of which the surface is coated with a metal oxide, wherein the positive active

material compound comprises  $\text{Li}_a\text{Ni}_{1-x-y}\text{Co}_x\text{M}_y\text{O}_{2-z}\text{S}_z$  and M is a metal selected from the group consisting of Al, Mg, Sr, La, Ce, V, and Ti, and  $0 \leq x < 0.99$ ,  $0.01 \leq y \leq 0.1$ ,  $0.01 \leq z \leq 0.1$ , and  $1.00 \leq a \leq 1.1$ .

13. (Previously Presented) The positive active material of claim 12, wherein the metal oxide coated on the surface of the compound is an oxide of a metal selected from the group consisting of Mg, Si, Ti, Al, V, Co, K, Ca, Na, and B.

14. (Previously Presented) The positive active material of claim 12, wherein the thickness of a layer coated on the surface of the compound is 1 to 100 nm.